GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5826
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
INCENTIVES FOR AGRI PROCESSING UNITS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering measures to provide incentives like Tax holidays for agro-processing units in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any concrete action plan has been prepared in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it will help for setting up of agro- processing units in rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH)

(a) to (e): Rationalisation of tax structure is a continuing process and Government have been taking steps in this regard from time-to-time. In the current financial year Excise Duty on processed fruits and vegetables has been brought down from 16% to 0%.

The Department of Food Processing Industrieshas initiated action for formulating a National Food Processing Policyand for this purpose Draft Policy has beenprepared which envisages, among other things, creation of enabling environment, infrastructure development, linkages at farm level etc. This, it is expected, will give a thrust to the development of food processing sector in the country including in the rural area.